

# Preface

1. Keen senses
2. Had to use his
3. Knew medicinal plants, chemistry
4. Recognized details
5. drew conclusions

Almost everyone in the world is familiar with the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. Tall and thin, his sharp face alert, his manner quiet and mysterious, Holmes met some of the worst criminals of his time. And he beat them.

Sherlock Holmes and his friend Dr. John Watson were created by Arthur Conan Doyle almost 100 years ago. Until the appearance of Holmes, the detective story was not popular. The first real detective story was published by Edgar Allan Poe in 1841. It was called "The Murders in the Rue Morgue." The first full-length detective novel was written by Wilkie Collins. It was called *The Moonstone*. Arthur Conan Doyle used many of the features of both stories. But Doyle went on to create the most famous detective in the literary world.

Without the aid of a central fingerprint file, mug books, telephones, blood typing, computers, or ballistics experts Holmes solved many difficult problems. He depended mostly on his powers of observation and reasoning. And the record of many of his cases has been left by his friend, Dr. Watson.

Not only will you find the action, mystery, and occasional horror that Dr. Watson recorded, but you will also find some good, exciting stories.

Read how Holmes and Watson first met. Follow them as Watson records, and according to Holmes, exaggerates, these interesting cases. And enjoy their often hair-raising adventures.